

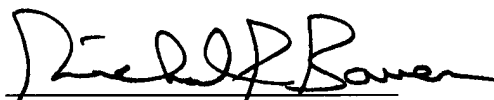
II. Remarks

Consideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 12, 15, and 18-23 are independent.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3507. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard P. Bauer", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
Richard P. Bauer
Registration No. 31,588

PATENT ADMINISTRATOR
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